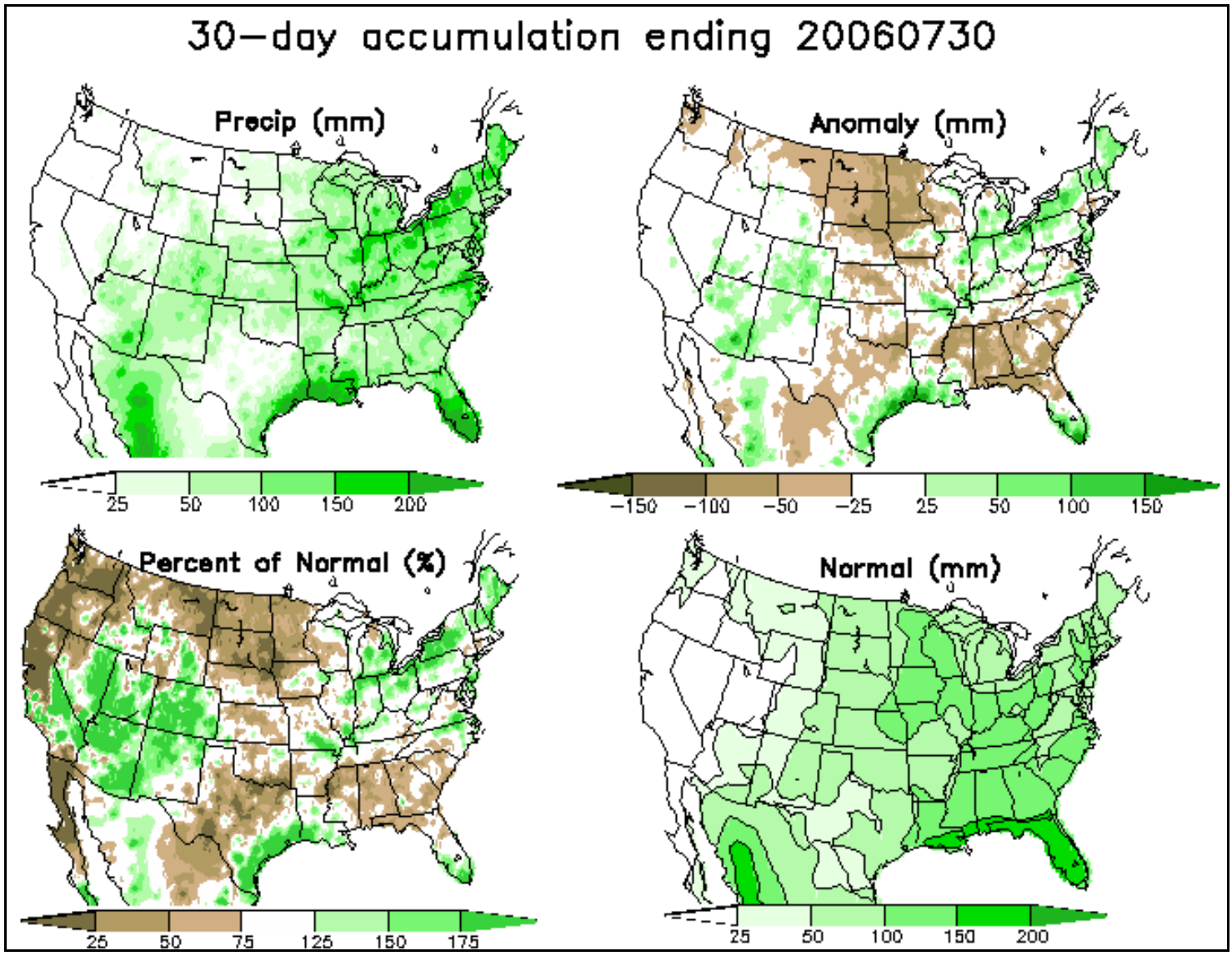
Eastern Area August 2006 Fire Weather/Fire Danger Outlook

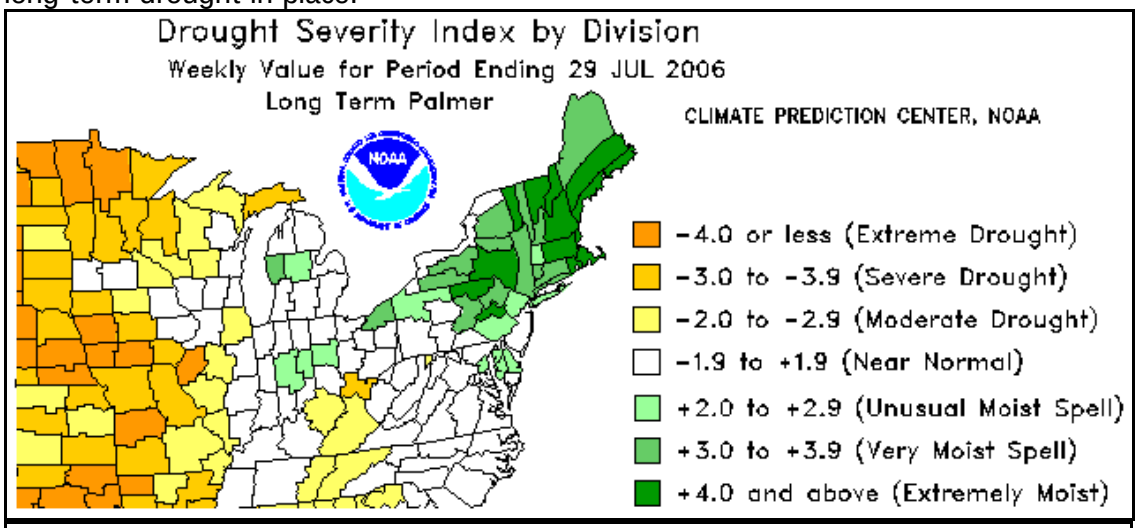
The following outlook was made with the most recent weather and climate data available at the beginning of August 2006. It is a general report intended to provide fire management personnel with an area wide outlook for August of 2006. Due to the variability in the data and weather computer model limitations beyond two weeks, it is important for the local fire manager to know their own area of responsibility and to base their actions on those conditions.

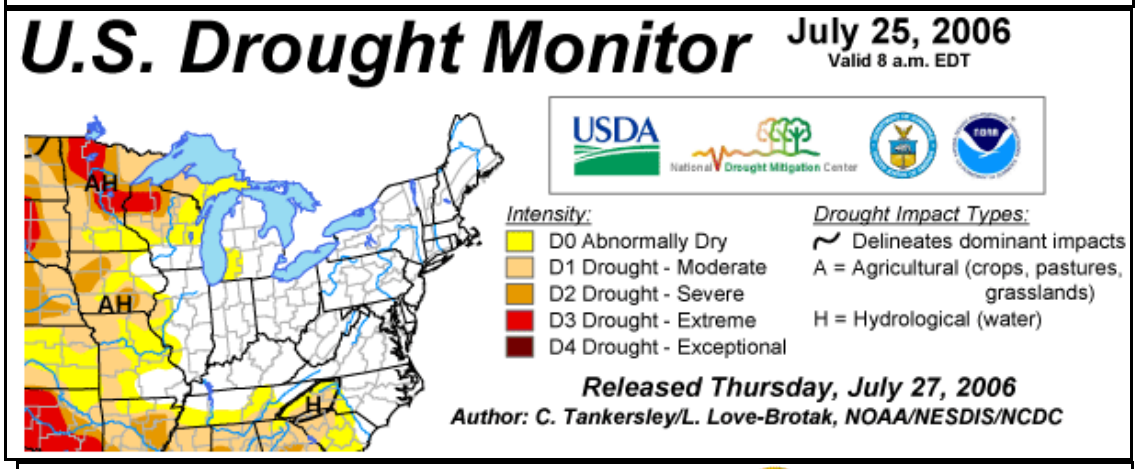
The graphics below display historical accumulated precipitation data over the 30 days through July 30, 2006. Below each graphic is a key displaying the color corresponding to precipitation amounts in millimeters 25.4mm=1.0 inch).

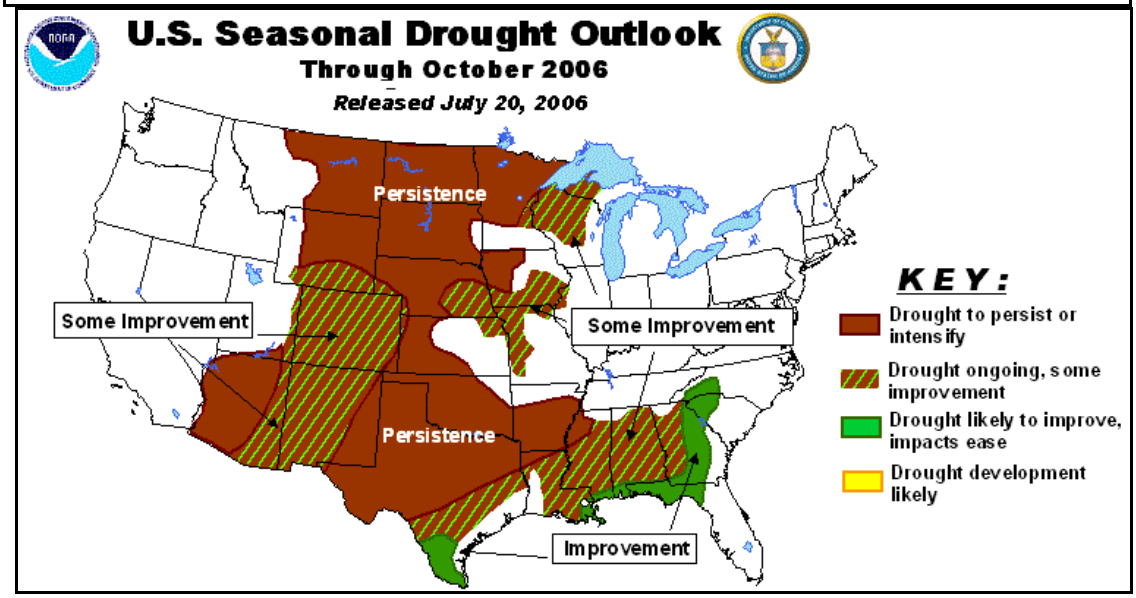


Drought Indicator and Outlook

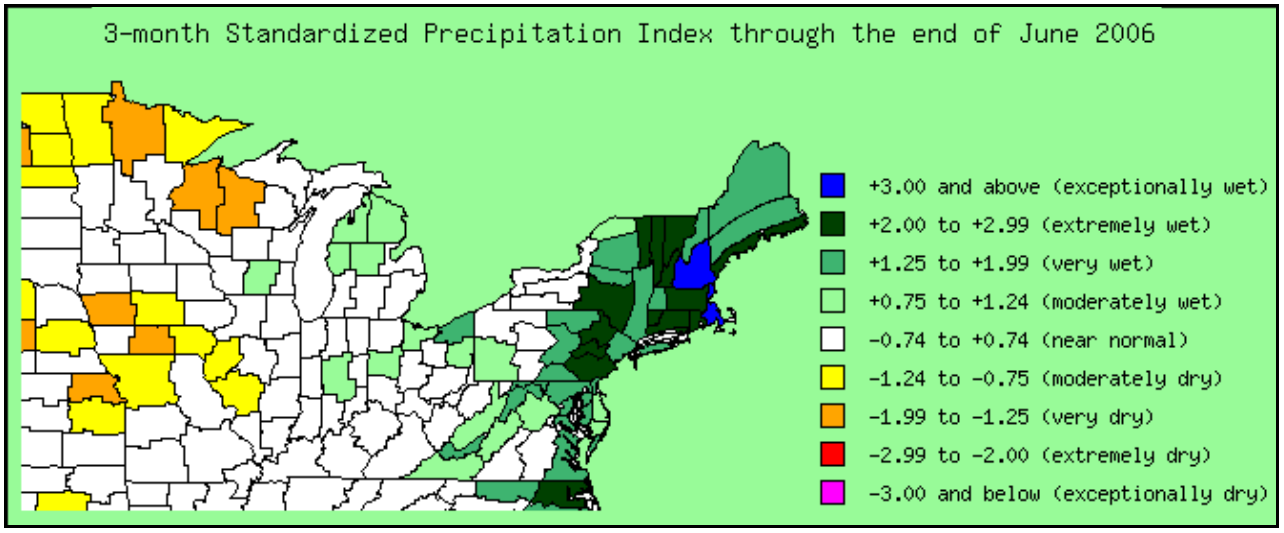
The Long Term Palmer Drought Severity Index through July 29, 2006 is displayed below. Areas colored in green indicate positive moisture anomalies.
The U.S. Drought Monitor ending July 25, 2006 is displayed below. The following colors correspond to increasing drought severity: Yellow=abnormally dry or in a drought state zero; Tan=moderate drought state of 1; Brown=severe drought state 2 ; Reddish brown=extreme drought state=3. The graphic displayed at the bottom of the page displays the U.S. Drought Outlook for the Eastern Area. The areas shaded in brown with green diagonal lines indicate areas forecast for some improvement to the long-term drought in place.





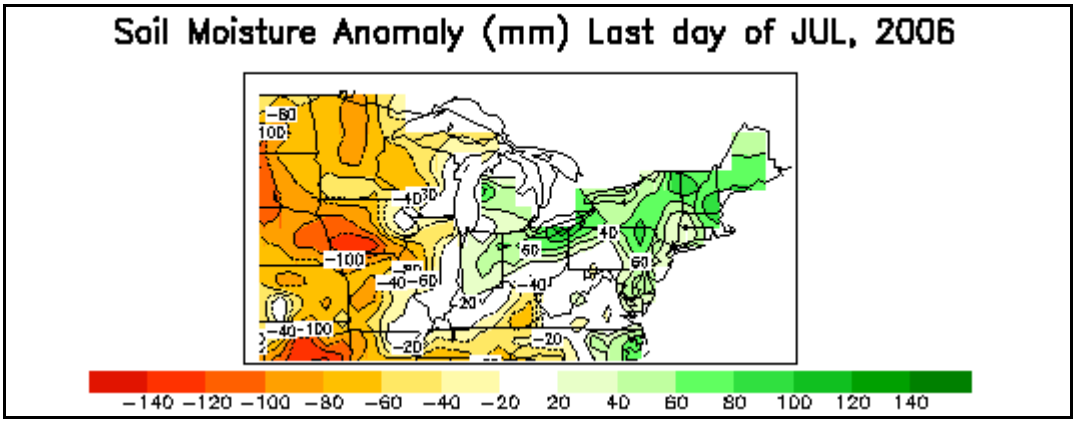


3 Month Standard Precipitation Index

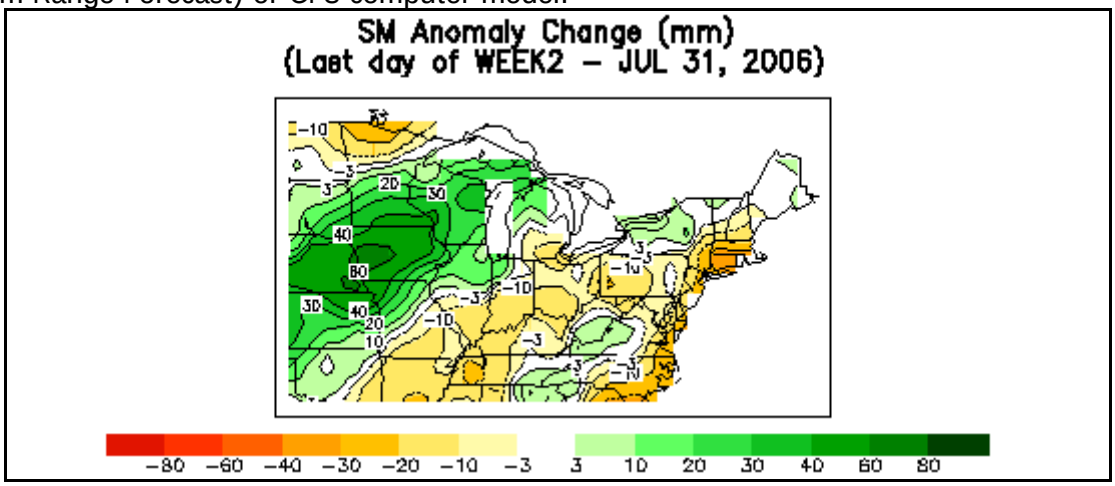


Soil Moisture Anomalies and Outlook

The graphic below displays **soil moisture anomalies** in mm through the 30 days leading up to July 31, 2006. Soil moisture is estimated in mm by a one-layer hydrological model (Huang et al., 1996). The model takes observed precipitation and temperature and calculates soil moisture, evaporation and runoff. The potential evaporation is estimated from observed temperature. Maximum soil moisture is set to be 760mm.

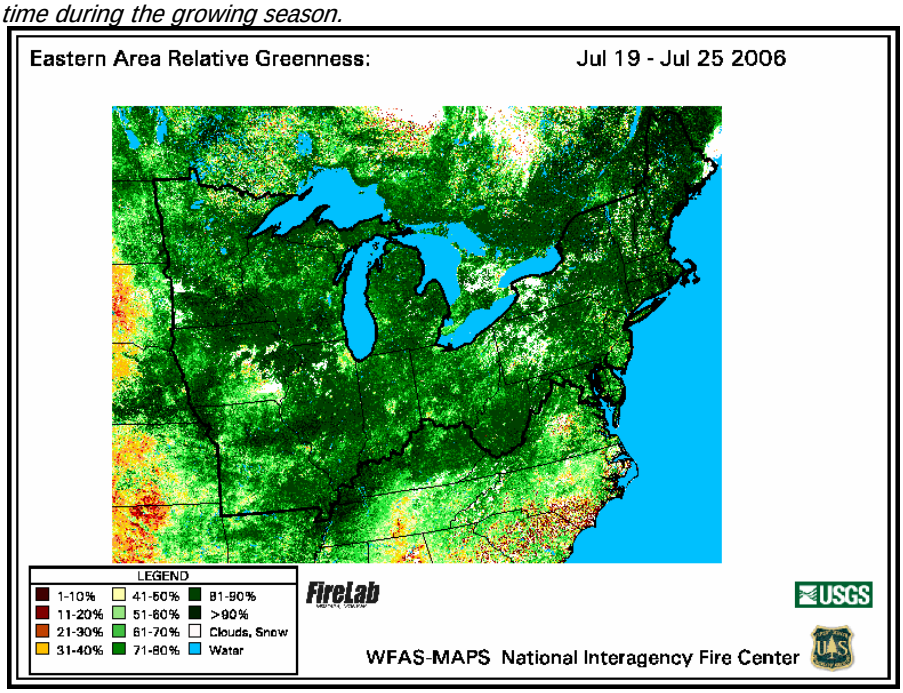


The graphic below displays the **forecast soil moisture change** (in mm) over the period **from August 7, 2006 to August 14, 2006.** These projections are based on output from the MRF Medium Range Forecast) or GFS computer model.



NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) Relative Greenness Map

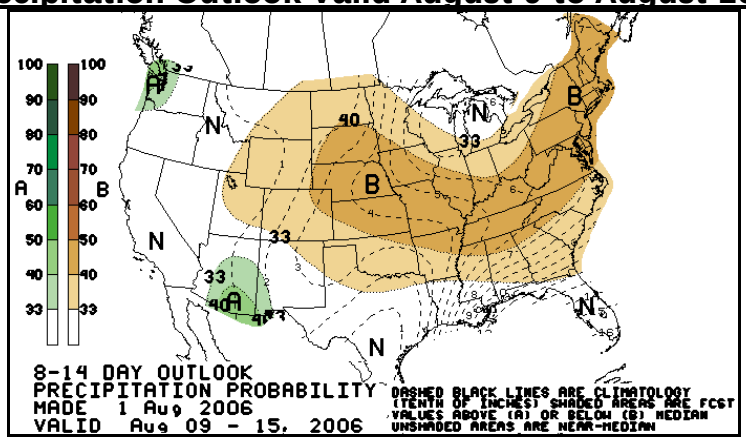
RG - Relative Greenness Maps - portray how green the vegetation is compared to how green it has been historically (1989-2003). Because each pixel is normalized to its own historical range, all areas (dry to wet) can appear fully green at some time during the growing season.



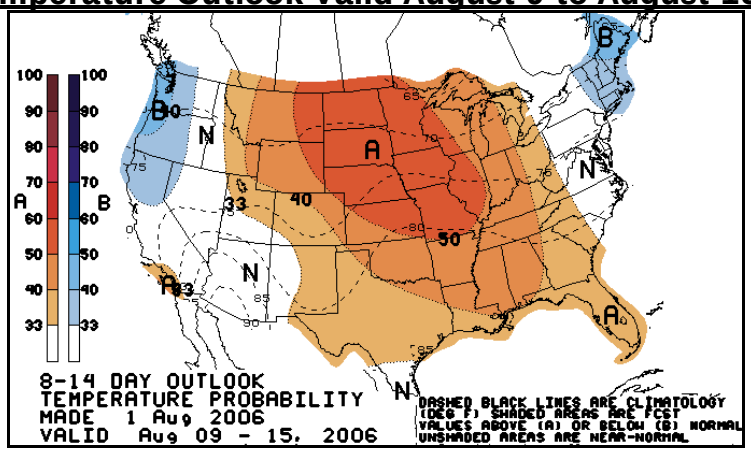
Weather Outlook

Climate Prediction Center's 8 to 14 Day Outlook

Precipitation Outlook Valid August 9 to August 15, 2006

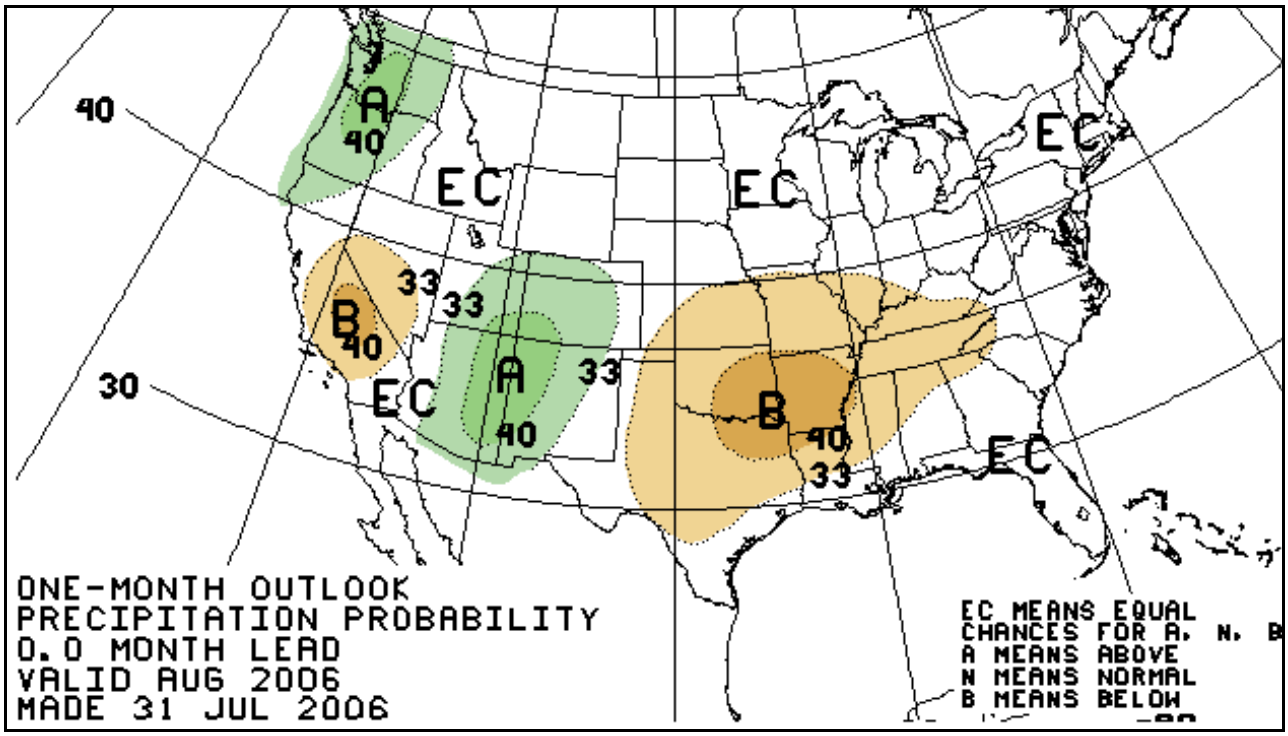


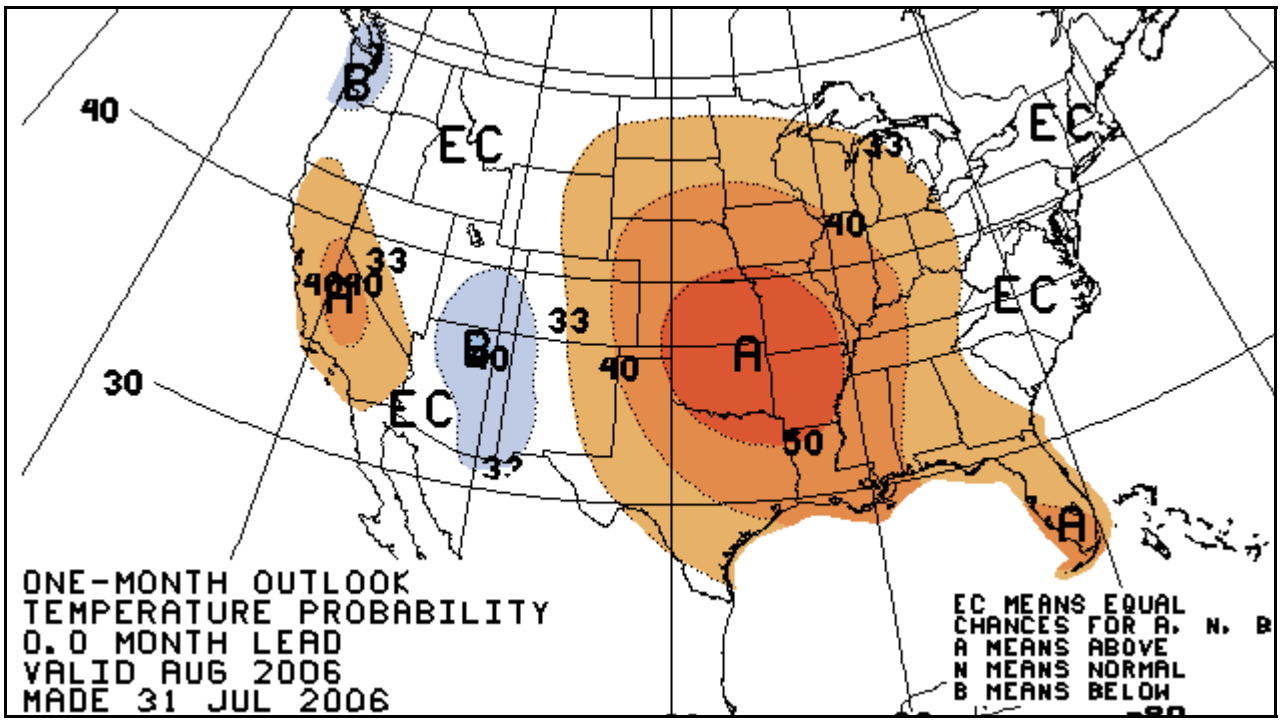
Temperature Outlook Valid August 9 to August 15, 2006



Climate Prediction Center's August 2006 Precipitation and Temperature Outlooks

(B=Below Normal, A=Above Normal) (CL=Equal Chance of being above or below)



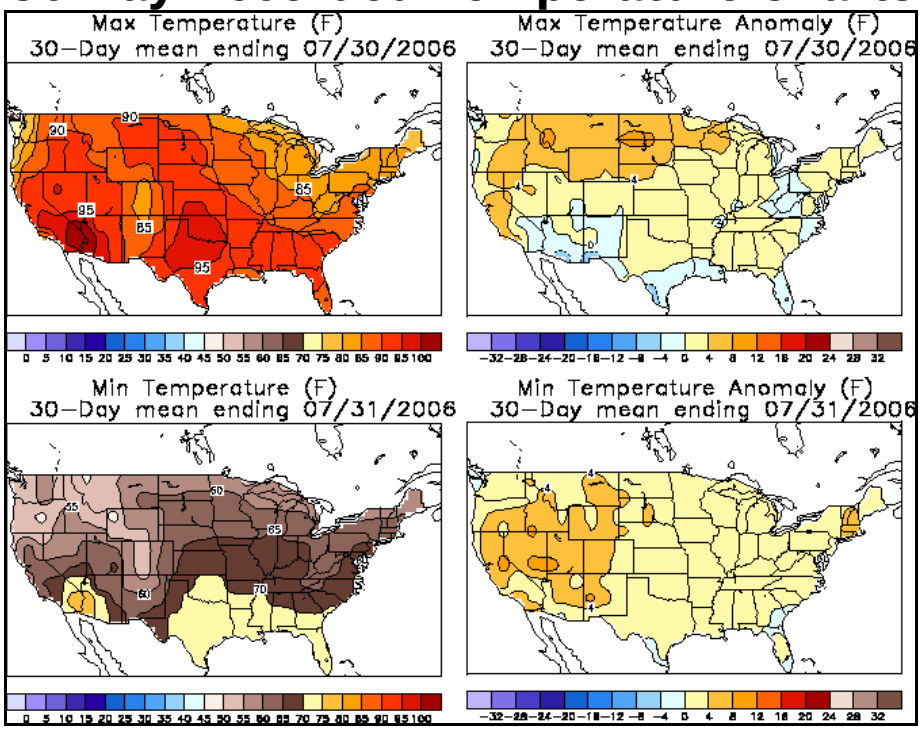


Narrative

Eastern Area August 2006 Fire Weather/Fire Danger Outlook

Geographic Area Name	Eastern Area
Precipitation Outlook	33 to 40 percent chance of below normal precipitation across Missouri, southern Illinois, and southwestern Indiana. Equal chances of above or below normal precipitation predicted across the rest of the Eastern Area (EA).
Temperature Outlook	33 to 40 percent chance of above normal temperatures across the southern 3/4 of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, eastern Ohio and Missouri. Equal chances of below or above normal temperatures predicted elsewhere across the Eastern Area (EA).
Fuels and Fire Danger Concerns	30 day temperature anomalies overall were near to slightly above normal over much of the Eastern Area through July 26th. The warmest areas of the Eastern Area were the northwestern Great Lakes states in regards to temperature anomalies. Throughout much ```of July precipitation events were very scattered in coverage and occurrence across portions of the northern and western Great Lakes as well as Iowa, central Illinois, and southern Missouri. Fire danger indices at many RAWS across central and northern Minnesota as well as northwest Wisconsin were above the 97th historical percentile towards the end of July. Some of these areas did receive some relief the last week of July but the heavier rainfall was fairly scattered in nature over these areas. Many RAWS were still near or above historical NFDRS and Canadian Fire Danger Indice levels on July 31st. 30 day precipitation and soil moisture anomalies were also below normal over these areas as well. Therefore, these areas were placed in above normal large fire potential for August of 2006. Meanwhile, frequent showers and thunderstorms activity persisted across much of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states in July. However, a lot of the precipitation which fell in short duration thunderstorm activity. This combined with periods of above normal temperatures led to ideal drying periods. Therefore, despite wetter than normal conditions during the May-June timeframe the eastern portions of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic were placed in normal large fire potential for the month of August anticipating typical warm and fairly dry August conditions over these areas. If wetter than normal conditions occur over these areas again below normal large fire conditions are anticipated for September of 2006.
Prescribed fire implications	

30 Day Recorded Temperature Charts



Eastern Area August 2006
Large Fire Potential Map

Red = Above Normal Large Fire Potential
Green = Below Normal Large Fire Potential
No shading = Normal Large Fire Potential